Facilities of Foreign and Indian Tourists

†1467. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of facilities being provided by Government to the domestic as well as foreign tourist at various places/States in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to attract more and more tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Development of tourist facilities is primarily undertaken by the State Government/UT Administrations. The Department of Tourism, however, provides some financial assistance for projects for tourist facilities identified in consultation with them. During the 9th Plan 1563 tourism projects with Central financial component of Rs. 372.14 crores were sanctioned in various States.

(b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has formulated the following short term and long term plant to attract the foreign as well as domestic tourists:—

1. Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a National priority activity.
2. Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination.
3. Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements.
4. Creation of world class infrastructure.
5. Developing sustained and effective market plans and programmes.
6. Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism.
7. Attention to civilizational issues and issues pertaining to civic administration and good governance and also of social and cultural values.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.